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*C2* 3. (Twice Amended) A composition according to Claim 1, wherein the extract of green tea contains from 20% to 30% by mass of catechols expressed as epigallocatechol gallate (EGCG).

*C3* 6. (Three Times Amended) A method for the curative and prophylactic treatment of obesity in a patient which comprises administering to the patient an extract or powder of green tea.

*C4* 7. (Twice Amended) A method according to Claim 6, wherein the extract of green tea contains from 20% to 50% by mass of catechols expressed as epigallocatechol gallate (EGCG), and from 5% to 10% by mass of caffeine.

11. (Three Times Amended) A method for promoting weight loss or maintaining a desired weight level in a human being, wherein said method comprises the oral administration of a green tea extract comprising catechol in order to bring about a loss of weight or to maintain a desired weight level.

*C5* 12. (Three Times Amended) A method according to Claim 11, wherein said oral administration comprises administration of a extract of green tea containing from 20% to 50% by mass of catechols expressed as epigallocatechol gallate (EGCG), and from 5% to 10% by mass of caffeine.

Please add the following new claims 22-24:

--22. A composition for the curative and prophylactic treatment of obesity, comprising an extract of green tea wherein said extract contains from 20% to 50% by mass of catechols expressed as epigallocatechol gallate (EGCG), and from 5% to 10% by mass of caffeine, and wherein the EGCG/caffeine ratio is between 2 and 10.

23. A method for the curative and prophylactic treatment of obesity in a patient which comprises administering to the patient an extract or powder of green tea wherein the EGCG/caffeine ratio in said extract is between 2 and 10.

24. A method for promoting weight loss or maintaining a desired weight level in a human being, wherein said method comprises the oral administration of a green tea extract comprising catechol in order to bring about a loss of weight or to maintain a desired weight level, wherein the EGCG/caffeine ratio in said extract is between 2 and 10.--